

**United Synagogue Eruv Committee
9 West Heath Road
London NW3 7UX**

13 March, 2001

The Editor
Ham & High

Via Telefax to 020 7483 3566

Dear Sir

Re: Eruv

Elizabeth Lawrence's letter of last week was riddled with inaccuracies. However, a point by point refutation while perfectly possible to produce would be many times the length of her original letter and too long to be published.

It is important, however, that the record be set straight on at least two factual points. First, it is wholly untrue that neither the United Synagogue Eruv Committee nor Barnet Council has been able to arrange appropriate insurance. It was a specific condition of the Barnet highway licence that suitable insurance be organised and an insurance policy entirely satisfactory to the Council has been effected with a major insurance company.

It is also entirely untrue to state that the United Synagogue has withdrawn from promoting the eruv. Quite the contrary, both the United Synagogue President, Peter Sheldon, and its honorary officers are heavily involved in progressing the project as is the Rabbinical Court of the United Synagogue.

Regrettably, nothing that I can say will wholly remove the unjustified negative impression established by letters such as Mrs Lawrence's but I hope that the silent majority of your fair-minded readers will be prepared to acknowledge that the eruv is a benign institution which will benefit many thousands of residents of the Borough of Barnet and will harm no-one.

Yours faithfully

Edward Black
Member, United Synagogue Eruv Committee